Brodek & Co

PHOTOGRAPHERS,

Main Street, Walla Walla, W. T

Unidentified Woman, Possibly Linked to Young–Green Families — Walla Walla, W.T.

Reflections

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This is another photograph from what I call the Vail–Dear Steel Box, a container that held family images for decades in the attic above my grandparents' garage in Camas, Washington. The box comes from my grandfather Thurman Dear's side of the family, originally out of Oakland, Oregon.

The cabinet card was produced by Brodeck & Co., Photographers, Main Street, Walla Walla, Washington Territory. There are no markings on the back, but the front shows faint pinholes and light scratches near the lower edge—possibly from being pinned or tacked in place at some point.

The cardstock and overall finish match another Brodeck photograph in the same box, labeled "Pauline Young." Both cards measure 4¼ × 6½ inches, and the style suggests they were created in a similar period, even if the design details point to slightly different sittings. Because several Walla Walla–area families appear throughout this group of photos, these similarities help narrow the possible connections.

The sitter here is unknown, but one research lead comes from notes shared by Wally Dunsmoor, who suggested a link to the William O. Green and Mary Francis Young family of Walla Walla. Mary was sister to Amanda C. Young. Mary Francis Young herself would have been too old to match the young woman in this portrait, but her daughters fall within the right age range for the Brodeck era. If this photograph dates from the late 1880s to mid-1890s, the sitter appears to be around 17 to 20 years old, which fits several of Mary's daughters at that time.

- Rebecca J. Green (born 1870) would have been 18–25
- Philinda P. Green (born 1869) would have been 19–26
- Mary O. Green (born 1877) would have been 11–18, depending on the exact year

These three match the likely age range, with Rebecca and Philinda fitting most closely. Clarinda (born 1862) and Anna (born 1864) would have been in their mid-20s to early-30s—older than the sitter appears.

This does not identify the subject, but it provides a reasonable starting point for comparison with other labeled photographs in the Baker / Young / Green collections held in Walla Walla archives. For now, this remains an unknown young woman, possibly connected to the William O. and Mary Francis Young family.

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